

damentally, the powers of our govern- INDEP
ments: absol
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For suspending our own legislatures,
declaring themselves invested with power
to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever
He has abdicated government here,
declaring us out of his protection,
waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, rav-
aged our coasts, burnt our towns, and de-
stroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, tra-
velling in the arms of foreign merce-
naries, the work of death, already begun, wit-
nessing the elty and perfid-
iousness of the most barbaric
the head

transporting large
numbers to complete
isolation, and tyranny,
in circumstances of cru-
elty scarcely paralleled in the
ages, and totally unworthy
of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens,
taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms
against their country, to become the execu-
tioners of their friends and brethren, or
to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections
amongst us, and has endeavored to bring
on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the
merciless Indian savages, whose known
rule of warfare is an undistinguished de-
struction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we
have petitioned for redress, in the most
humble terms; our repeated petitions have
been answered only by repeated injury. A
prince, whose character is thus marked by
every act which may define a tyrant, is un-
fit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in atten-
tion to our British brethren. We have
warned them, from time to time, of at-
tempts made by their legislature to ex-
tend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over
us. We have reminded them of the
circumstances of our emigration and
settlement here. We have appealed
to their native justice and magnanimity,
and we have conjured them, by the ties
of our common kindred, to disavow
these usurpations, which would inevita-
bly interrupt our connections and cor-
respondence. They, too, have been deaf
to the voice of justice and consanguini-
ty. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the
necessity which denounces our separa-
tion, and hold them, as we hold the
rest of mankind, enemies in war, in
peace, friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the UNI-
TED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL
CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Su-
preme Judge of the World for the rectitude
of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the au-
thority of the good people of these colonies,
solemnly publish and declare, That these United
Colonies are, and ought to be, FREE AND

INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are
freed from all allegiance to the British
Crown, and that all political connexion between
them and the state of Great Britain, is, and
ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as
FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES,
they have full power to levy war, conclude
peace, contract alliances, establish commerce,
and to do all other acts and things which IN-
DEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And,
for the support of this declaration, with a firm
reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVI-
DENCE, we mutually pledge to each other, our
lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

THE AMERICAN UNION.

MARTINSBURG, VA.,

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 4, 1861.

*Names of the persons connected with
the publication of "The American
Union:"*

Capt. Wm. B. Sipes,	Editor,
Lieut. C. H. Hale,	1st Assistant.
Samuel Vandersloot,	2d do.
L. K. Zuck,	3d do.
Horatio Snyder,	Compositor,
George Rudisill,	"
George C. Stroman,	"
Benj. Daily,	"
George W. Bence,	"
John B. Byers,	"
S. A. Stouffer,	"
John A. Seiders,	"
D. C. Martin,	"
A. Crist,	"

"THE AMERICAN UNION."

In justice to all engaged on this issue of
the best Union paper ever printed in Mar-
tinsburg, Virginia, some explanation should
be made as to the manner in which the
project originated and was carried out. At
dark on the evening of the 3rd two dis-
ciples of Faust came to the writer of these
lines and proposed to get out a newspaper
for the glorious 4th. The idea was adopted,
was submitted to the high authorities and
approved of by them, and volunteer prin-
ters were then called for. They stepped
out by dozens, proving the patriotism of the
craft, and at ten o'clock the squad of twelve
entered the office of the "Virginia Repub-
lican," struck a light, found plenty of paper
ink, &c, and went to work. The result of
the night's labor is before you, reader, and
under the circumstances we have no apology
to make for its imperfections.

The "Virginia Republican" was a bitter
organ of the secessionists until recently,
when its editor closed up the concern and
joined the rebel army. The office was
littered with the evidences of treason, and
standing on the press, "locked up" ready
to work, was a form containing several
secession songs.

THE ADVANCE INTO VIRGINIA.

On Tuesday last the army under command of
Major General PATTERSON crossed the Potomac
river from the neighborhood of Williamsport,
Md., and formed upon the "sacred soil" of
Virginia. The ford of the river was found easy,
and as regiment after regiment entered the li-
quid element to the sound of soul-inspiring
music, and marched gaily along, the sight
was most imposing. Such a scene can be wit-
nessed but rarely, and the gallant men who
participated in the movement, as well as the
thousands who witnessed it, will never forget
the memorable second. Never was a more gal-
lant spirit evinced: never were men more de-
termined: never did hearts beat more nobly
than did those of the thousands who had ral-
lied around the star-spangled banner to defend
the Union of our Revolutionary sires, and pro-
tect and perpetuate a Government which the
oppressed in every land have looked upon for
half a century as the beacon of liberty.

They anticipated nothing less than an en-
gagement with the soldiers of the self-styled
Southern Confederacy, who had boasted so
loudly of their determination to drive back ev-
ery attempt to invade the soil of the seceded
States, but this anticipation had no terrors for
them. The cause for which they had buckled
on their armor is a holy one, and in support
of it they were ready to brave every danger--
The feeling which animates an invader who
marches for conquest and plunder was unknown
to them. They made no war for the purposes
of aggression and aggrandizement; and hence
they dreaded not the result. That soil which
had been the birthplace of Washington, Jaffer-
son, Henry and Lee, and in whose bosom their
hallowed remains rest, was known to hold
thousands of citizens who had not forgotten the
teachings of those apostles of freedom or proved
recrude to the glorious example. The army
marched forth to save these patriots from an-
archy and despotism, and in such a cause no-
thing less than Spartan courage and endurance
could be evinced.

As soon as the various Brigades had cross-
ed the river, under the command respectively
of Col. Abercrombie, Gens. Wynkoop, Wil-
liams and Negley, and Cols. Thomas and Long-
enecker, directed immediately by Maj. Gens.
Cadwallader and Keim, they were formed and
took up the line of march on the road towards
Martinsburg and the valley of Virginia. Bag-
gage wagons accompanied them, and all the
equipments for the efficiency and comfort of
the soldiers were in the trains. The troops
moved with alacrity to the strains of "Yankee
Doodle" and the "Star Spangled Banner,"
The Wisconsin First, under the command of Col.
Starkweather, and the Pennsylvania Eleventh,
Col. Jarrett, were fired upon by a large body of
Secessionists at Falling Waters, about four
miles from Williamsport, which fire was
promptly returned, causing the boasted "sons
of chivalry" to scatter like sheep. A run-
ning fight then took place--the secession for-
ces rapidly retreating and the Union volun-
teers as rapidly pursuing, over a distance of
two miles. On this ground every indication of
actual war was visible. Fences were levelled,
grain was trampled down, trees were torn by
cannon shot, buildings were on fire, the road